

Jun-28-06 04:24pm From-

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**THE  
NAVAJO  
NATION**

**PRESIDENT**  
**JOE SHIRLEY, Jr.**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**FRANK J. DAYISH, Jr.**

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

### ORDER OF FIRE RESTRICTION

Pursuant to 17 N.N.C. § 2701, upon the advice of the Navajo Forestry Department, the President of the Navajo Nation may order any area of Navajo Nation land closed to entry by the general public because of the danger of fire.

An Executive Order, Order of Fire Restriction is being issued due to a combination of inadequate precipitation, high wind conditions and high temperatures, which have resulted in high to extreme fire danger conditions reservation wide. Therefore, to protect the Navajo Nation's forests and woodlands, this restriction was issued.

The **ORDER of FIRE RESTRICTION** restricts the following within the Navajo Nation's forest and woodlands

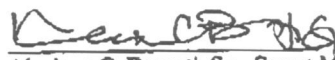
- The Building, maintaining and attending to ALL open fires, including personal use fires (i.e. family reunions, trash burning, charcoal); and
- 2. The Open burning of cropland, fields, rangeland, debris, weeds, etc; and
- 3. The Use of a firearm and incendiary devices, without a valid permit; and
- 4. The Operating, using internal or external combustion engines (i.e. chainsaws) without a spark arrestor; and
- 5. The Smoking of cigarettes, pipes and any other material; and
- 6. The Possessing, discharging, manufacturing, sale or use of FIREWORKS or other pyrotechnic device is unlawful on the Navajo Nation (17 N.N.C. § 2733).

**ONLY** propane and gas grills will be allowed; in addition, **ALL** traditional ceremonies requiring the use of fire will require BIA Burn permits and will only be issued for these ceremonies.


Any person or parties found guilty of violating the provisions of this **ORDER of FIRE RESTRICTION** will be fined and may be required to pay restitution to the Navajo Nation the full cost of fire suppression and/or fair market value of the timber/woodlands and improvements destroyed or damaged by a fire.

Report any wildland fires to the B.I.A. Fire Dispatch at (928) 729-2307 or the Navajo Forestry Department at (928) 729-4007. If there are any questions pertaining to this Order, please call the Navajo Forestry Department at (928) 729-4007.

This **ORDER of FIRE RESTRICTION** is effective upon the signature of the President of the Navajo Nation.

  
Alexius C. Becenti, Sr., Forest Manager  
Navajo Forestry Department

  
Arvin S. Trujillo, Division Director  
Division of Natural Resources

  
Joe Shirley, Jr., President  
THE NAVAJO NATION

#### Clarification of Fire Restrictions for brochure

**No open burning:** No burning of wood or charcoal; No burning of trash or fields; No camp fires

**Use of gas grills or stoves provided:** It is okay to use gas grills or gas stoves.

If you have questions please call the Forestry Department

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FRANK J. DAYISH, JR.**

**June 28, 2006**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Contact:** Selena Manychildren  
PIO – Department of Emergency Management  
(928) 871- 7537

**Fire Restriction Enforcement on Navajo Nation**

**Window Rock, AZ** – The Navajo Nation has an Order of Fire Restriction in effect since June 12<sup>th</sup> until further notice. The Commission on Emergency Management also issued a State of Emergency Declaration due to the number of fires and the continuing drought conditions.

The Commander of the Emergency Operations Center in Window Rock, Arizona; Johnny Johnson called for an increased awareness of the order on Tuesday this week. Mr. Johnson is promoting an all out campaign with respect to the recent fires on the Navajo Nation, the upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations, and the continuing drought conditions.

In the campaign to bring awareness to the extreme fire danger, the Navajo Nation will have signs posted at all entrances to the reservation to alert travelers and the general public. The campaign includes media coverage through television, radio, newspaper and distribution of flyers. In addition, the Navajo Department of Public Safety will be holding roadblocks to confiscate fireworks. Navajo Nation Shopping Center officials have included fire warnings on the electronic billboard at the main intersection of Highway 264 and Navajo Route 12 in Window Rock.

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Fires pose a hazard not only to the health and welfare of residents, but also to power lines, gas lines, water lines, and communication towers. About 121 people were evacuated due to the Kinlichii Two Fire the week of June 6<sup>th</sup> and the Pine Springs fire on June 11<sup>th</sup>. There has been emergency response to 12 fires in the last two weeks. Combined these fires have burned approximately 5,422.3 ½ acres. Four of the fires were human caused, and the rest are a result of lightning.

The cost to fight fires is tremendous as experienced by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management. The department has a rough estimate of \$50,000.00 providing emergency personnel and emergency operations during the fires. Figures regarding overtime, mileage and equipment cost are being finalized at this time. The Southwest Area Incident Management Team estimated a cost of \$3, 514,657.00 fighting the Navajo Mountain Fire. The Bureau of Indian Affairs Fire Management Service does not have cost estimates available at this time.

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